

21ST YEAR--No. 6,391.

IN CONGRESS TO-DAY.

THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY MATTER RECEIVES ATTENTION.

Mr. Reed wants the building to proceed on the plans of Chief Engineer Casey, but Mr. Holman claims that to be new legislation--Conference of Democratic Senators.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Manderson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, favorably reported an amendment to be proposed to the Sundry Civil bill, appropriating \$40,000 for the preparation of a site and purchase of a pedestal for a statue to General Sheridan.

A bill was passed granting the right of way through the Indian Territory to the Choctaw & Railway Company.

Also a bill authorizing the conveying of obsolete cannon to State and National Soldiers' and Sailors' Homes.

The Consular and Diplomatic bill was then taken up and debate proceeded with upon Mr. Holman's amendment to change the titles of foreign ministers from envoys extraordinary to ambassadors.

The Senate, after some debate, agreed to the amendment of Mr. Holman substituting the word "Ambassador" for the words "Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary."

HOUSE.

Consideration of the Sundry Civil bill was resumed in the House to-day. The pending session was a clause providing \$500,000 for work on the Congressional Library.

Mr. Reed made the point of order against the clause, that the appropriation was not in conformity with law, as the estimate for the work was based upon the assumption that the work would be carried on without delay and on a large scale, thus gaining the advantages to be derived from large contracts.

Mr. Reed offered an amendment providing for the continuance of the work upon plans furnished by the Chief of Engineers.

Mr. Holman made the point of new legislation against the amendment.

Mr. Reed's amendment was then taken up and debate proceeded with upon Mr. Holman's amendment to change the titles of foreign ministers from envoys extraordinary to ambassadors.

Some debate followed upon the point of order, Mr. Adams going into an exhaustive research of precedents to show that Holman's point of order should not be sustained.

Mr. Reed's amendment was ruled out of order, and consideration of the bill proceeded with.

CARRYING THE MAILS.

The House Committee on Postoffices and Postroads has authorized a favorable report on the bill to amend sections of the Revised Statutes relating to the Railway Mail Service in carrying the mails, and to the compensation of railroads for carrying the mails, at such prices as the Postmaster-General may determine, not to exceed the maximum provided by law. Any railroad company, or its agents refusing to transport mails, shall be liable to a penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for each day in which such refusal, or non-performance shall be persisted in.

THE TARIFF BILL IN COMMITTEE.

The House Ways and Means Committee to-day proceeded with the consideration of the Senate Tariff bill. The Democrats on the committee are in disagreement over some sections of the bill. Messrs. Wilson, Breckinridge of Kentucky, Bynum and Turner favor an agreement to the internal revenue and free list features of the bill, while Messrs. Miller, McMillin and Breckinridge of Arkansas advocate a strict adherence to the principle of the Mills bill. The committee claims it will report the bill back to the House for action this session.

IN THE HOUSE YESTERDAY.

After a long debate in the House yesterday the clause in the Sundry Civil bill limiting to \$35,000 the salaries of the employees of the deaf and dumb asylum was allowed to stand as reported by the Committee on Appropriations.

FOR SCHOOLS IN ALASKA.

Mr. McComas offered an amendment to the Sundry Civil bill yesterday in the House providing \$50,000 for industrial and primary education of children in Alaska, and supported his amendment in an eloquent speech. The amendment was agreed to.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS AT THE CAPITOL.

The President pro tem. laid before the Senate this morning a communication from the Architect of the Capitol stating that the fixtures to light the Senate wing with electricity would cost \$20,000. It is proposed to light the entire building with electricity.

THE AGUACUET INQUIRY.

The joint committee investigating the fraudulent work on the Aguacuet tunnel held a meeting this morning and examined several witnesses. Another meeting will be held next week.

PROTESTING AGAINST UTAH'S ADMISSION.

In the House to-day Mr. Burroughs presented the protest of 18,000 citizens of Utah against the admission of that Territory as a State.

PETITIONS FAVORING LOCAL PROHIBITION.

The petitions in favor of prohibition in the District continue to come in from every source, notwithstanding that the District committee has already acted adversely on the proposition.

CAPITOL NOTES.

The afternoon session yesterday was consumed in a debate over an amendment made by Mr. Gibson to the Consular and Diplomatic bill, changing the titles of ministers plenipotentiary to that of ambassadors. Adjournment arrived without action on the amendment.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

The House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds has agreed to report favorably a bill for the establishment of a Zoological Park in the District of Columbia. Two hundred thousand dollars is appropriated for carrying into effect the provisions of the act.

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THE SHIPPING LEAGUE.

The convention of the American Shipping League met to-day at Willard Hall Thursday morning to be one of the most important the League ever held. Many prominent men from all parts of the country will be present, as well as a delegation of negroes representing the West African Mail and Steamship Company.

THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENT.

Contractors and Builders Thomas & Driscoll have failed to enter upon their contract to construct the eight-room school-house on Montgomery street, Georgetown, and the Commissioners have authorized for him Contractor Doherty was the second lowest bidder, and he now claims that the contract should be given to him. The Commissioners have declined to give him the contract, and he has threatened to enter suit.

Several residents of the neighborhood of Mt. Vernon Square have become alarmed at the suggestion of Dr. Bowen to convert this square into a circle, and they have sent protest after protest to the Commissioners. The latter have decided that before any such change is made they will give the property owners ample notice.

The friends of A. J. Marsh, who was dismissed from the Water Office, are making efforts to have him reinstated, and Congressmen have waited on the Commissioner with this object in view.

Frank W. Hackett has complained to the Commissioners of a failure on their part to acknowledge the receipt of an official communication. He states that on the 17th of December Messrs. Hentle and Hornblower and himself, all residents of M street, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets, addressed a letter to the Commissioners in which they considered to be a violation of a permit to erect a house on the corner of M and N streets.

These were returned and a request made that the letter be officially acknowledged. Another month has elapsed and no official notification of the receipt of the letter has arrived.

Mr. H. L. Cranford, who holds the contract for repairing cuts in the asphalt pavements, has repaired the cuts made by the United States Electric Lighting Company on Pennsylvania avenue and rendered his bill for \$3,437.50. He notified the Commissioners that as his contract was with the District, his bill is against them and not against the company. The latter refuses to pay and Captain Symons has recommended that money due this company be withheld until the bill is paid.

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LATE DEPARTMENT NEWS.

The Commissioner of Pensions has been advised that on the 21st inst., in the United States Court at New Orleans, La., P. J. Kramer, notary public, was convicted upon a charge of making a false certificate in the case of Felicienne Gustave.

The State Department will send to Congress either to-day or to-morrow the correspondence on the Samoan trouble that arrived on Saturday. The report on the Samoan trouble from Commander Mullins of the U.S.S. Albatross, sent to Secretary Whitney this morning, is nothing new or startling in the report.

Bond offerings to-day amounted to \$208,500 as follows: 4s, registered, \$2,000; at 120; \$500; 4s, registered, \$143,000; \$100,000, \$17,000 and \$6,000, at 109.

Among the President's callers to-day were Senators Hendricks and Gray, Representatives Stone of Kentucky, McKenna, McKenney, Thompson of California, O'Neill of Pennsylvania and Conger of Iowa, ex-Representative Frank Hurd, General Martin T. McMahon of New York and Hon. J. F. Andrew, Member of Congress-elect, Boston.

Patents were issued to residents of the District to-day as follows: Edward P. Johnson, swimming apparatus; Orlando F. Smith and G. H. Barbour, seal for dip-pipes; Rufus H. Peake, automatic gas governor; and Edgar B. Stocking, cash or parcel carrier.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day appointed John Landberg to be storekeeper at Minneapolis, Minn.

The national bank notes received to-day by the Treasurer of the United States for redemption amount to \$309,334.30.

The opening of proposals at the Navy Department for an armored coast defense vessel has been postponed to March 15.

Proposals for the construction of the machinery for the United States armored cruiser Maine has been extended to 12 o'clock March 15.

A BOY'S CURIOUS CONFESSION.

Why He Set Fire to the Office of the "Chronicle." George Herrmann, a fat, stock-headed, apple-faced boy, was to-day seated in the chair occupied by men undergoing trial in the Criminal Court. He was charged with attempt at arson. It was alleged that he had attempted to burn the office on Eleventh street in October last.

A bundle of papers on the fire. Herrmann had been seen in the building and went to the police station and gave himself up saying that he set fire to the house because the man for whom he worked didn't pay him.

F. C. Taylor, who appeared as Herrmann's counsel, claimed that the confession was simply an idiotic freak on the part of the boy.

Herrmann said that he hadn't set fire to the place and that he told the officer what he did simply because he wanted a nice warm place in jail to stay until summer came on.

SENATOR ALLISON'S TRIP.

Senator Allison left Indianapolis yesterday for Washington. The fact that he remained the guest of General Harrison during his stay is regarded as a confirmation of the report that he is to be Secretary of the Treasury. By not going to the hotel Senator Allison escaped the interviews. Just before taking the train for Washington he said to a reporter that he could say nothing regarding his visit to General Harrison, but he could speak about the work of Congress. In his opinion the necessity for an extra session of Congress is unavoidable.

THE FIRE THIS MORNING.

The alarm from box 214 was rung at 8:30 this morning. A fire was discovered in a frame house in Blad's alley by Officer Malloy. The house and contents were completely destroyed, the loss amounting in all to \$350.

THE COURT RECORD.

Criminal Court--Justice Montgomery. George Reed, robbery; verdict, guilty. Geo. Hermann; attempt at homicide; guilty.

Circuit Court--Chief Justice Whigham. Lloyd vs. Fry; verdict for defendant with costs. Combs vs. Taylor, suit renewed; Eugene Carusi made administrator. Weaver vs. Ruppert.

SCHOOLS AND STATIONS.

HOW THE DISTRICT PURCHASED THE SITES.

Mr. John F. Cox Describes Before the Committee Investigating the Commissioners the Methods That Were Employed.

The Congressional Committee investigating the Commissioners' methods of purchasing sites for schools and station-houses, was called to order by Chairman Taulbee at 10:30 o'clock this morning. All of the Commissioners were present. Mr. John F. Cox informed the committee that his attorney, Colonel Payne, was out of the city. Mr. Taulbee thought the Commissioners might be examined, as their statements might obviate the necessity of examining a good many witnesses.

Mr. Baker said that this is a quasi criminal trial and the Commissioner should know what is charged.

MR. COX ON THE STAND.

Mr. Chipman insisted on examining Mr. Cox, who was sworn as the first witness. The witness stated, in answer to questions from the chairman, that he is a lawyer by profession, but sometimes deals in real estate and has taken out a real estate license.

He was asked to point out what sites he bought for the District, and eight such sites were named.

In response to a question asking him how it happened that he had been engaged, he said he was walking on an Avenue one day and he met Commissioner Webb and his friend Colonel Taulbee. It was during the fiscal year 1885-86. Mr. Webb requested him to call at the Commissioners' office and confer with him about the purchase of school sites. Mr. Wheatley also spoke to him about the matter.

Mr. Cox said that he was called by the Commissioners that they had an appropriation out of which they could compensate him.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PURCHASE.

They never suggested to him that he could make anything out of the transaction. But he did intend to get a commission from the vendor of the property. He was asked if he usually told the persons from whom he bought sites for what purpose they were to be used, and he said he kept this knowledge to himself. The committee wanted to know how he knew where to get good sites, and Mr. Cox said the Commissioners did not indicate definitely where they wanted sites, but only in a general way.

When he found one that could be had, he submitted it to Mr. Webb. Mr. Webb would submit to the Inspector of Buildings the reasonableness of the price asked. If it was satisfactory to him, the school trustee in that division would be consulted as to whether the site was satisfactory to them.

In regard to the purchase of the police station-house on Capitol Hill, Mr. Cox said he bought this site, on Ninth street northeast, at his own risk, and afterward sold it to the District.

THE CAPITOL HILL STATION-HOUSE.

He said that Major Moore indicated the neighborhood in which he wanted a site. He considered several offers of sites from 50 to 80 cents per foot. When this site was offered, Mr. Cox, Webb, Pettit of Weller & Pettit for 37 1/2 cents per foot he at once purchased it in the name of Daniel S. Pickrel, an officer of an investment company. He intended to offer it to the District, and if they did not accept it, he intended to keep it for the company, of which he is a director. He sold the lot to the District for 42 1/2 cents. He did not tell the Commissioners what he paid for the site, and he said to Mr. Pickrel contained only a nominal consideration.

The investment company refused to give a warranty deed, as required by the Government, and witness had to transfer it to some intermediary, so that such a deed could be executed.

Mr. Cox was asked by Mr. Taulbee what relation either of the Commissioners gave to him. He said that Mr. Webb had no relation, and he could not swear that Mr. Wheatley was any relative of his. He supposed their ancestors used the same cellar-door to slide on.

His attention was directed to the purchase of the Bradley school site on Thirteenth and a-half street, between D and E streets southwest. The witness said he called upon Thomas J. Fisher & Co. and inquired of them the price of these lots, and they told him the price of \$185, out of which he paid \$25 for the abstract.

Mr. Cox was asked by Chairman Taulbee if he knew of any instances where the District would have had to pay more for the sites if it were not for the purpose they were to be used. He said C. H. Cragin had said that he would bid a site up to \$5,000 above the price the District would give just to prevent a school from being established there.

Mr. Lee said that Mr. Cragin said before the committee that if he had known the property was to be used for a school site it could not have been purchased at all.

The site for the Weighman school, at Twenty-third and M streets, was next considered.

Mr. Cox said he purchased this site for Mr. J. V. N. Huyck at 99 cents per foot, while it was bulletined at \$1 per foot. He made \$300 out of this transaction, and considered that his services were worth that amount.

Mr. Taulbee asked if it was intended to sit during the session of the House. He said in justice to all concerned the thing should be disposed of as soon as possible.

After some further discussion the committee adjourned at 12 o'clock for one hour. Mr. Baker requested the chairman to get a committee room nearer the surface and he promised to do so.

When the committee reconvened at 1 o'clock the examination of Mr. West, ex-Commissioner of the District, was begun.

GENERAL WEST'S TESTIMONY.

He explained that the appropriation bills provided for the purchase of sites within certain localities; that with the view of making a profit he had ascertained the price at which a number of sites could be purchased and submitted them to the District Commissioners.

A middleman had been used to secure a warrant deed, and also to make the transfer as easy and cheap as possible. It had been his experience that property owners would make an advance on sites desired by the Commissioners. He had purchased three sites, one on Fifth street

northeast, one on R street and one at the corner of First and L streets.

General West was questioned closely about his purchases, but maintained that his services were a saving to the District; that whenever it was known that property was wanted by the Commissioners the price was immediately raised.

FIRE AT TANEYTOWN.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Station Narrowly Escapes Destruction.

YORK, Pa., Jan. 29.--A special from Taneytown, Md., says: About 9 o'clock last night fire broke out in the agricultural implement warehouse owned by Frank Bowersox, spreading to the lumber shed of T. H. Eckenrode, burning both buildings and contents. Loss, \$5,000; property insured, \$2,500, partly insured; loss to latter, between \$3,000 and \$5,000, partly insured. Other property being in great danger and the town and station of the Frederick fallowing of the Pennsylvania Railroad threatened, assistance was telegraphed for to Littlestown and Frederick, but the fire was gotten under control before the engines were ready to start.

A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

While Assisting a Derailed Freight Train, a Passenger Train Was Killed.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, Jan. 29.--A terrible accident occurred yesterday afternoon near Plum Creek Bridge to the Westbound passenger train of the Southern Pacific. The freight train was partially derailed; the passenger train stopped and was rendering assistance, when it was crashed into by a heavy freight train which was following. A relief train, with extra coaches and several physicians, left here for the scene of the wreck, five miles distant. The railway officials refuse to give any further information.

FIRE IN CINCINNATI.

A Pizzeria's Head Butly Cut by Falling Glass.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Jan. 29.--Fire occurred in the Robinson Clock and Suit Company's store at 262 West Fourth street at 5:30 this morning. Nicholas Maue, a pizzerman for Fire Company No. 4, living on Church street, was hit on the head by a pane of glass falling from a window in the rear of the store. He was cut in several places. He was removed to the city hospital. Loss, \$28,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

CAUCUS OF DEMOCRATIC SENATORS.

The Attitude of Republicans in Executive Session Discussed.

A caucus of Democratic Senators was held this morning in the Democratic conference room. About fifteen Senators were present. It was more a conference than a caucus and was called to discuss the attitude of Republican Senators in executive session. The Senators present told all that they knew of what had been done in committee on important nominations, and it was agreed that the policy of the Republicans was to hang up these nominations.

The reports of all the Democratic Senators, that all nominations to office, where the officeholder resigned, they would stand to permit the President to appoint a successor for a long term, and all nominations to life offices, will be suspended indefinitely, or until the next President is inaugurated. Some indignation was expressed, but no serious action was determined on, as the Democratic Senators are powerless.

INAUGURATION NOTES.

The Contract Awarded for Building the Treasury Stand.

The Committee of General Arrangements to provide seats for Treasury employees to witness the inaugural parade on the 4th of March has awarded the contract for constructing a temporary stand, to be erected on the southeast corner to the northwest corner of the Treasury building, to Esper & Bees. The stand, which will be erected on the southeast corner to the northwest corner of the Treasury building, to Esper & Bees. The stand, which will be erected on the southeast corner to the northwest corner of the Treasury building, to Esper & Bees.

Some of the police were placed about the Treasury building and others at the foot of Grand street. Shortly before 6 o'clock a car was drawn from the stable down to the starting point in front of the Grand Street Ferry House. A howling mob of strikers surrounded it the moment it came from the stable, a hollow square of stalwart policemen was formed about the car, and they drew their long nightsticks in such a menacing way that the mob did nothing but howl. The noise aroused the inmates of the tenement houses in the district, and they swarmed to the scene, some of them half clad. All were in sympathy with the strikers, and their presence and cries tended to increase the excitement.

EXPERIENCE OF THE FIRST CAR.

John Mahoney drove the car. He is a clerk in the office of the company, and is the same man who took the first car during the last strike on this line. He mounted the platform alongside of Mahoney. While Mahoney was awaiting the signal to start, policemen were being swung along Grand street. At last the car started and the crowd followed. As it passed the corner of Grand street a truck, which was across the track, the truck was finally removed and the car proceeded. Between Ridge and Pitt streets it was again stopped by the placing of another truck on the track. At the corner of Grand and Attorney streets another wagon was overturned on the track.

Here the mob made a dash for the car. The police ordered the crowd to stand back and drew their clubs. For a time the mob wavered, but it soon began to surround the car, and the police again warned the mob and stood with uplifted batons. The mob had now reached the car. Suddenly the horses were unhitched. They were given a sharp lurch and started off on a run. The car was then thrown across the track. Meantime the police were in a hand-to-hand conflict with the mob and the blows of the locusts could be heard on all sides as they descended on the heads of the rioters. The crowd then began to scatter and it was finally driven off. The policemen had gained the day.

One of the ringleaders, Charles Flanagan, a driver, was arrested. The crowd demanded his release, but the police surrounded him and took him to the Delancy street Station-house, where he was charged with upsetting a car. He was locked up. While this was going on the car was righted, the horses recaptured and hitched to it and it was returned to the stables. No more violence was attempted.

THE TIE-UP IN NEW YORK.

Exciting Experiences During the First Trip on One of the Lines--Bystanders Sympathize With the Strikers--The Police Reserve on Duty.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.--Nearly three years have elapsed since New Yorkers have been forced to walk to business through a "tie-up" of the surface roads. The last "tie-up" in June, 1886, was a disastrous one for the men. For some time past the men have been quietly preparing to renew the struggle, and in accordance with a decision reached last evening, nearly all the roads were tied up this morning. The men, some two weeks ago made a demand on the companies for \$2.25 per day for ten hours' work in twelve consecutive hours. No reply was received, hence the "tie-up."

The men, in a long address to the public, set forth their grievances and asked its support. The strikers comprise the employees of the First, Second, Fourth, Sixth, Eighth and Ninth avenues, Broadway, University Place, Bell, Dry Dock, Avenue B, Avenue D, Corland street, Grand street, Forty-second street, Central Cross Town, Chambers street, Avenue C, Boulevard, St. Nicholas avenue and One-hundred-and-tenth street, Harlem, Morrisania and Fordham. One-hundred-and-thirty-eighth street and Port Morris lines.

The Third Avenue, Twenty-third Street, Fourteenth Street, Bleeker Street and Christopher Street lines have not been tied up.

STRIKERS AWAITING DEVELOPMENTS. The strikers this morning were assembled in groups on the street corners, along the routes of the various roads, and at the stables of the car companies, awaiting developments. Pickets have been thrown out in all directions to intercept any person who may approach the headquarters of the tied-up lines on the suspected errand of taking a strike's place.

The Dry Dock road expected the tie-up yesterday. President Richardson of the Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn, is a large stockholder in the road and the strike on it is a sympathetic one for the purpose of helping out the strikers on Mr. Richardson's lines in Brooklyn and compelling the latter to come to terms more speedily.

The men have no fault to find with the hours and pay of the road. In fact, they are better treated than most of the street car men. Only a few days ago the strikers of the company posted a notice to the effect that the company had decided to take one trip off the men each day without reducing their pay.

POLICE RESERVES ON DUTY. The police reserves were on duty last night in all the station-houses in anticipation of trouble, and this morning the precautions against an outbreak have been redoubled. Patrol wagons are held in readiness and strong forces of police are assembled at several points to respond to any call. Trouble is feared before the day passes. Some of the railroad officials express themselves as being determined to send out cars, and no one can foretell what the result may be, as the strikers say they will use all their efforts to prevent the running of cars.

VIOLENCE BY THE STRIKERS. The police report that some strikers set upon and beat an Italian named Tomey in a horrible manner near the Eighth avenue car stables last night. He was stabbed in the face several times. His condition is serious. No arrests were made.

A lively row occurred on Grand street this morning, when a crowd of strikers tried to overturn a car. At 4 o'clock this morning the officials of the Grand street line notified the police that they would send out a car. The reserves were immediately ordered out from the Delancy street station.

Some of the police were placed about the company's stables and others at the foot of Grand street. Shortly before 6 o'clock a car was drawn from the stable down to the starting point in front of the Grand Street Ferry House. A howling mob of strikers surrounded it the moment it came from the stable, a hollow square of stalwart policemen was formed about the car, and they drew their long nightsticks in such a menacing way that the mob did nothing but howl. The noise aroused the inmates of the tenement houses in the district, and they swarmed to the scene, some of them half clad. All were in sympathy with the strikers, and their presence and cries tended to increase the excitement.

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